

National Board Certification is the most widely respected professional certification program available in education and provides numerous benefits to teachers, students, and schools. It was designed to develop, retain, and recognize accomplished teachers, as well as generate ongoing improvement in schools nationwide.

National Board Certification is achieved upon successful completion of a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize effective and accomplished teachers who meet high standards based on what teachers should know and be able to do.

- The certification process takes between one and five years (all components must be submitted within three years; an additional two years is allowed for retakes only).
- Candidates complete four components that are reviewed by NBPTS trained teachers in their certificate areas.
- The assessments include three portfolio entries that feature teaching practice and three constructed response exercises plus 45 selected response items that assess content knowledge.
- The estimated time commitment is between 200 to 400 hours to complete the certification process.
- Certification is not a guarantee; the national certification rate hovers around 40 percent from year to year.
- After certification, Kentucky teachers are eligible for a Rank change – either Rank III to Rank II, or Rank II to Rank I – and may be eligible for an additional stipend for their NBCT status.
- National Board Certification is designed to enhance your professional practice in your existing certification area(s). It is not intended to extend your certification to other areas. For example, a teacher certified only in Secondary English/Language Arts would not be eligible to add an endorsement to teach English as a Second Language by virtue of National Board Certification. If you are in doubt about which certification to pursue, please contact [Jocelyne Waddle](#).

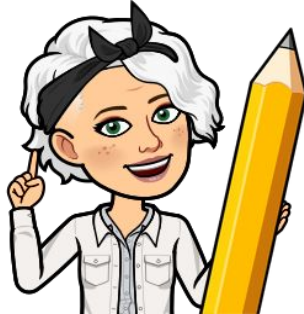
You will become a better teacher.

[OELE alignment \(NBPTS fits with what you are already doing\)](#)

[Becoming an Accomplished Teacher Video](#)

[Video Spotlight on KY NBCT](#)

[Video Spotlight on KY NB Candidate](#)



Your students will benefit.

[What Teachers Should Know and Be Able to Do](#)
[Student Achievement](#)

You might qualify for help with costs.

[KEA: President's scholarship for NB candidates](#)
[Erika Collins, NBCT Scholarship for JCPS Teachers of Color](#)

Contact your district to see if local or federal funds are available to support National Board Certification.

You will be part of a larger community.

[NBCTs' effect on mentoring novice teachers](#)

[Kentucky National Board Network](#)

[KEA National Board Certification Support](#)

You will receive financial benefits.

NBCTs are eligible for a teaching certification Rank change.

[How to apply for rank change after obtaining NB certification](#)

You may be eligible for a salary supplement of up to \$2,000, per KRS 157.395. For more information contact your district finance personnel.

You will be well prepared for leadership opportunities.

[Teacher Career Continuum](#)
[KY Teacher Leadership Framework](#)

[Peer to Peer Observation and Feedback Learning Sessions](#)

Below you will find resources to help you navigate making the decision to become a National Board candidate, created in collaboration with the Kentucky National Board Network and the Kentucky Education Association.

ELIGIBILITY

IMPORTANT
CONSIDERATIONS

SELF
ASSESSMENT OF
CANDIDACY
READINESS

NATIONAL BOARD
CANDIDATE FAQs

Ready to become a candidate? Go to the [NBPTS website](#) to get started!

National Board Certification

